

## Other Story Titles on the Theme of *Cooperation*

To Supplement the Story:  
"The Ram and the Pig Who Set Up House"

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### **Story Title:** "The Magic Ball" (*Argentina*)

**Recommended Source, Internet:** Web Site: "Absolutely Whootie: Stories to Grow By"  
[http://hazel.forest.net/whootie/stories/magic\\_ball\\_argentina.html](http://hazel.forest.net/whootie/stories/magic_ball_argentina.html)

#### **Synopsis:**

An evil witch lures children away from home to her place in the mountains with a magic ball. One day, Natalia and her brother Luis follow a beautiful magic ball until they, too, are far away from home. Lost, they fall asleep. While they sleep, the witch uses magic to bind Natalia's hair to a rock. When the brother and sister awaken, they realize the danger the sister is in. Luis quickly escapes and enlists the aid of a man, a condor, a goose and a flamingo. All cooperate to free his sister from the witch's spell.

**Note:** This story originates from the Chuput region of Argentina.

### **Story Title:** "The Great, Big Enormous Rock" (*Indonesia*)

**Recommended Source, Book:**

*Ten Small Tales* (picture book)

Written by Celia Barker Lottridge

Published by Margaret K. McElderry Books, New York, 1994

#### **Synopsis:**

A turtle, a snake, a rabbit and an elephant live together on an island. Covering the top of the mountain is a "great big enormous" rock. It would be such a good place to play if not for that "great big enormous rock"! One by one, the animals try to climb the mountain and push off the rock so they can play at the top of the mountain. At last, they all push together and the great big enormous rock goes bumpity crashing down the mountain. The four animal friends settle down on top of the mountain and have a wonderful picnic.

### **Story Title:** "Odon the Giant" (*Philippines*)

**Recommended Source, Book:**

*Nursery Tales from Around the World*

Written by Judy Sierra

Published by Clarion Books, New York, 1996

## “The Ram and the Pig” – Other Resources

### **(“Odon the Giant,” cont.)**

#### **Synopsis:**

A nasty giant named Odon crushes and stomps all creatures smaller than he and no one can stop him. At last, a little bird called a picoy thinks of a plan. While Odon is away, he and four other very small creatures – a mosquito, a bedbug, a crab, and an eel – creep inside Odon’s house. The bedbug crawls to the giant’s bed, the mosquito flies to the back of the giant’s rocking chair, the crab jumps into the washbasin, the eel curls up next to the doorway, and the picoy bird nestles down into the ashes by the fireplace. When Odon comes back and sits down, the mosquito starts to buzz in his ear. The giant jumps into bed and closes the mosquito netting tightly around him. The bedbug starts to bite him all over, and he runs across the room to the fireplace. Then the picoy bird starts flapping his small wings, blowing fireplace ashes into the giant’s eyes. Odon runs to the washbasin and plunges his face into the water, but the crab grabs his lip and squeezes hard. The giant cries, “Help! My house is haunted!” and runs to the door. That’s when the slippery eel stretches his body across the threshold. Odon falls – thud! – to the ground. Odon the Giant runs away to the forest as fast as he can and is never seen again.

### **Story Title: “The One Turnip Garden” (*Russia*)**

#### **Recommended Source, Book:**

*Ten Small Tales* (picture book)

Written by Celia Barker Lottridge

Published by Margaret K. McElderry Books, New York, 1994

#### **Synopsis:**

A large, poor family cultivates a tiny garden. When they plant a turnip seed, the children claim jobs to help take care of it. When the littlest girl says she also wants to care for the seed, her older brother and sister say she’s too little to do anything. “I can too do something,” she says. Every day, the very small girl whispers to the little plant. She urges it to grow gigantic. Sure enough, the turnip grows gigantic – its green top grows taller than the house. Before long, it is time to pull up the turnip. The father takes hold of it but the turnip will not budge. The mother helps him by pulling from behind, but still the turnip does not budge. The older sister and the brother also grab hold and tug, but the turnip simply will not come up. The very small girl wants to help pull, but her older brother and sister say she is too little. “Yes, I can help,” she says. She goes over to the turnip and whispers, “Little turnip, you have grown big. You have grown gigantic. Now it is time to come up.” Then she joins in at the back of the line-up. When everyone in the family pulls together, the turnip comes up!

#### **Other Version:**

*The Turnip: An Old Russian Folktale* (picture book)

Written by Pierre Morgan

Published by Philomel Books, New York, 1990